

## A B S T R A C T

### PROCESS FOR THE HYDROFORMYLATION OF AN ETHYLENICALLY UNSATURATED COMPOUND

5           Process for the hydroformylation of an optionally  
substituted ethylenically unsaturated compound by  
reaction thereof with carbon monoxide and hydrogen in the  
presence of a specific catalyst system which includes a  
source of Group VIII metal cations; a diphosphine ligand  
10       having the general formula (I):



wherein  $X^1$  and  $X^2$  each independently represent an  
optionally substituted cyclic group with at least 5 ring  
atoms, of which one is a phosphorus atom,  
15       and R represents a bivalent optionally substituted  
bridging group which is connected to each phosphorus atom  
by a  $sp^2$  hybridized carbon atom; an acid having a  $pK_a < 3$ ;  
and a source of halide anions.

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